



PRODUCER
SPOTLIGHT
LIGHTS, CAMERA,
TAKE ACTION IN YOUR
COMMUNITY



TELEVISION PRODUCER LEO ESPINOZA, shown here with co-producer Cynthia Barrientos, answers questions about “Experiencia Latina.” The show airs on Bloomington Community Access Television (BCAT), Channel 16, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesdays and Fridays at 12:30 a.m., 6:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

My show began with a need for information, education and entertainment for the growing Latina population so that they can have a positive input in their communities.

Creating my own television program has been in my mind since I was in school. I worked in radio for 12 years in Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Texas and Miami, but making an image public stays in the hearts and minds of the community.

After knocking on at least 20 doors to get my program on television, I found community cable access. People told me that Minnesota communities weren’t ready for a show in Spanish. It made me want to do it more.

We want audiences to understand our new community and be sensitive to other cultures and languages so that people won’t discriminate. In a civilized society, this is the true meaning of freedom and success.

BCAT provides opportunities to everyone. Not in every country in the world do you have the opportunity to express your own ideas.

Create your own program. Make lots of mistakes. Don’t let your ideas die in your heart. Capture them. Treasure them. If you present it as it is, it will be beautiful.

For more information, visit BCAT at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: BCAT or call Amanda Taylor at 952-563-4980.

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FIREFIGHTER
FIRE STATIONS TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE



THE CITY’S SIX FIRE STATIONS CELEBRATE National Fire Prevention Week with an open house on **Saturday, October 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Firefighter, Police and Public Works staff will be on hand, along with lots of activities, demonstrations and tours. Free t-shirts and temporary tattoos will be available for kids. For more information, call 952-563-4801.

CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER

CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER IS LOCATED AT 9801 PENN AVE. S. FOR MORE information, call the Human Services Information Line at 952-563-4873.

CONNECT TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES
CALL BLOOMINGTON FAMILINK

If you have questions or need information on housing, financial assistance, health insurance, legal services, childcare or other issues, call Bloomington FamiLink. Human Services staff will help clarify needs and connect you with resources. Call 952-563-4957 V/TTY or visit Creekside, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

TAKE A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE
ATTEND THE ALL AGES ANIMAL EXTRAVAGANZA

Wood Lake Nature Center staff will show off their interesting animal friends and present many fascinating facts about the creatures that live around us. Children and adults are invited to this free event on **Wednesday, August 24, from 9:30 -10:30 a.m.** at Creekside. To register, call the Information Line.

FREE CELL PHONES TO ACCESS 911
OLDER ADULTS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ARE ELIGIBLE

Bloomington residents who do not own cell phones and are ages 55 or older or have disabilities or medical conditions are eligible to register for free cell phones refurbished to access 911 emergency services exclusively. Cell phones will be distributed on **Saturdays, September 10 and November 5, at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.** at Creekside. A monthly service fee is not needed to access 911. Individuals who receive cell phones must attend a brief orientation on distribution day. This program is made possible by Qwest Pioneers.



CELL PHONE DONATIONS NEEDED

If you’d like to donate a working cell phone with a wall charger that was purchased within the last five years, drop it off at Creekside. Volunteers with Qwest Pioneers will clear the phones of personal data and reprogram them to access 911. Donated phones will be distributed to older adults or individuals with disabilities or medical conditions.

BLOOMINGTON IMPROV
MAKES DISCUSSING DIFFICULT TOPICS EASIER



BLOOMINGTON IMPROV, A THEATER troupe comprised of Jefferson and Kennedy high school students, is a unique way for schools, faith organizations, businesses, civic groups and other organizations to discuss difficult topics. The troupe uses short, 30-second to two-minute scenes to explore issues. At the end of each scene, an IMPROV adult facilitator invites discussion from the audience. For more information, call 952-563-8984. IMPROV is supported by Bloomington Public Health, Tri-City Partners for Healthy Youth and Communities, and the Education Foundation of Bloomington.

OPEN HOUSE

Visit your local fire station
Saturday, October 15
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

STATION NO.	ADDRESS
1	10 West 95th St.
2	10601 Xerxes Ave. S.
3	2050 E. 86th St.
4	4201 W. 84th St.
5	10540 Bush Lake Road
6	8601 Lakeview Road

**HONORING
LEADERSHIP
NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD**

THE BLOOMINGTON HUMAN RIGHTS Commission is seeking nominations for the Omar Bonderud Human Rights Award. The Commission will honor an individual or organization (business, volunteer group or religious group) that has demonstrated leadership in promoting human rights in our city. The award recipient will be publicly recognized and receive a plaque. The deadline for Omar Bonderud Award nominations is September 16. To receive a nominee application, please call 952-563-8733; TTY 952-563-8740.

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT
AND AWARENESS MONTH
OCTOBER FEATURES EVENTS
AND ACTIVITIES

HUMAN SERVICES CELEBRATES Disability Employment and Awareness Month in October with activities and events. The goal of this month-long effort is to provide an opportunity for all people with disabilities to learn about job requirements, obtain information about job placement and training programs, learn about community advocacy programs and to educate businesses about the benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities. For a complete listing of the activities offered throughout the community, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: DEAM. For more information, call the Human Services Division at 952-563-4873.